

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Claims pending:**

- At time of the Office Action: Claims 1-16, 18-21, and 23-24.
- After this Response: Claims 1-9, 18-21 and 23-24.

**Canceled claims:** 10-16.

**Amended claims:** 1, 18, 21, and 24.

**New Claims:** None.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:  
evaluating a current state of each device of a plurality of devices;  
assigning devices of the plurality of devices to a group. the assigned  
devices each having a substantially common state as other devices in the group  
plurality of devices to a group;  
assigning at least one event-handling policy to the group, wherein the  
assigned policy is associated with each of the ~~plurality of devices~~ in the group; and  
~~evaluating~~ re-evaluating a current state of each device in the group before the  
assigned policy is applied to the ~~device~~ devices in the group.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a  
current state of each device determines whether each device is currently a member  
of the group.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a  
current state of each device includes:

1 determining whether a particular device is currently a member of the group;  
2 and  
3 applying the assigned policy to the particular device if the particular device  
4 is currently a member of the group.

5  
6 4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein each device is  
7 assigned at least one additional policy that is not assigned to the group.

8  
9 5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein a particular  
10 device is assigned to multiple groups.

11  
12 6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event-  
13 handling policy defines how the device is configured.

14  
15 7. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event-  
16 handling policy identifies the types of events that are provided to each device.

17  
18 8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the method is  
19 implemented by a management module.

20  
21 9. (Original) One or more computer-readable memories containing  
22 a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method  
23 recited in claim 1.

24  
25 10 – 17. (Canceled)

1 18. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media  
2 having stored thereon a computer program that, when executed by one or more  
3 processors, performs the process of:

4 evaluating a current state of each device of a plurality of devices;

5 assigning devices of the plurality of devices to a group, the assigned  
6 devices each having a substantially common state as other devices in the group-a  
7 ~~plurality of devices to a group;~~

8 identifying an event-handling policy associated with the group of devices,  
9 wherein the event-handling policy defines how devices are configured;

10 assigning the event-handling policy to the group of devices; and

11 ~~evaluating-revaluating~~ a current state of each device before the assigned  
12 event-handling policy is applied to ~~the device~~ devices in the group.

13  
14 19. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in  
15 claim 18 wherein a particular device is assigned to multiple groups of devices.

16  
17 20. (Previously Presented) One or more computer-readable media as  
18 recited in claim 18 wherein the event-handling policy further defines the type of  
19 event data that is provided to each device.

20  
21 21. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method  
22 comprising:

23 determining current states of systems in an enterprise;

24 assigning the systems to groups based on rules associated with the groups  
25 and the current states of the systems;

1 assigning policies to at least one particular group;  
2 reevaluating the current states of each system in the particular group;  
3 if the reevaluated current states are valid according to the rules associated  
4 with the particular group, applying the policies to the systems in the particular  
5 group; and  
6 if the a current states-state of a particular system in the particular group are  
7 is not valid,  
8 updating the particular group to delete the particular system; and  
9 applying the policies to the systems in the updated group.

10  
11 22. (Canceled)

12  
13 23. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method as  
14 recited in Claim 21, further comprising:  
15 creating an event log associated with the particular group; and  
16 maintaining information about the states of the systems in the particular  
17 group in the event log.

18  
19 24. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method as  
20 recited in Claim 21, wherein the current states represent at least one of a version of  
21 an operating system, a location in a geographic region, a configuration of the  
22 system, presence of a particular hardware item, or capacity of a particular  
23 hardware item.